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Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

APR 16 2014

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## Attorneys for Intervenor City of Sedona

## BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

**COMMISSIONERS BOB STUMP, Chairman GARY PIERCE BRENDA BURNS BOB BURNS** SUSAN BITTER SMITH

ORIGINAL

12 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA PUBLIC 13 14

OF AUTOMATED METER OPT-OUT SERVICE SCHEDULE 17.

SERVICE COMPANY FOR APPROVAL

Docket No. E-01345A-13-0069

INTERVENOR CITY OF SEDONA'S MOTION FOR PROCEDURAL ORDER TAKING OFFICIAL NOTICE OF FILINGS IN GENERIC DOCKET E-00000C-11-0328 ON OPT-OUT FEES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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Intervenor, the City of Sedona ("Sedona") requests that the Arizona Corporation Commission issue a Procedural Order taking official notice of the filings in Docket E-00000-11-0328 ("Generic Docket") that relate to APS' Application in this docket. As detailed below, many filings in the Generic Docket address APS' charges and terms and conditions under which APS' customers may "opt-out" of having their analog electrical meter replaced by a so-called "Smart Meter." Sedona formally requests the Commission take official notice of these filings in the Generic Docket as part of its consideration of APS' Application in this docket.

Sedona requests that the Commission enter a Procedural Order taking official notice in this docket of the filings in the Generic Smart Meter Docket and consider them to the extent that they bear on the decisions the Commission makes on APS' Application. Specific references to documents filed in the "Generic" Docket that may be made in the official testimony and other hearing filings pursuant to the process outlined in Subsection T, will be provided in a timely manner to permit APS an opportunity to respond under provisions of the anticipated Scheduling Order. This motion is made pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, including Ariz. Admin. Code, Sec. R14-3-109, Subsection T, on Official Notice, and Subsection K referencing the Arizona Rules of Evidence. Subsection T states:

- T. Official notice. The presiding officer may take official notice of the following matters:
- 1. Rules, regulations, official reports, decisions and orders of the Commission and any regulatory agency of the state of Arizona.
- 2. Contents of decisions, orders, certificates and permits issued by the Commission.
- 3. Matters of common knowledge and technical or scientific facts of established character.
- 4. Official documents, if pertinent, when properly introduced into the record of formal proceedings by reference; provided, however, that proper and definite reference to such document shall be made by the party offering the same and that the same is published and generally circulated so that an opportunity shall be given to all of the parties of interest at the hearing to examine the same and present rebuttal evidence.
- 5. Such other matters as may be judicially noticed by the Courts of the state of Arizona.

Referencing paragraph 5 (and to some extent paragraphs 1 and 2) above, the Commission is permitted to take official notice in the APS Docket of "opt-out" filings in the Generic Docket. Courts in Arizona routinely take judicial notice of filings and rulings in related cases before the Court, where appropriate and applicable. *In re Sabino* R., 198 Ariz. 424, 425, ¶ 4, 10 P.3d 1211, 1212 (App. 2000) ("It is proper for a court to

take judicial notice of its own records or those of another action tried in the same court."); *State v. Astorga*, 26 Ariz.App. 260, 261, n. 1, 547 P.2d 1060, 1061 (1976) ("A court may take judicial notice of the record in another action tried in the same court."), citing, *Reidy v. O'Malley Lumber Company*, 92 Ariz. 130, 132-33, 374 P.2d 882, 884 (1962). Courts also will take judicial notice of the record in administrative proceedings where pertinent to the issues under consideration in the court action. A state agency may take judicial (or official) notice in its proceedings of materials submitted in another docket to the same extent and with the same restrictions as provided in law for the Superior Court, Rule 201, Ariz. R. Evid. *Phelps Dodge Corp. v. Ford*, 68 Ariz. 190, 198, 203 P.2d 633, 639 (1949); Ariz. Admin. Code, Sec. R14-3-109 (T)(5).

So long as the applicant is given an opportunity to address and respond, it has for several decades been the rule that various federal, state and local bodies and agencies may take "judicial," "official," or "administrative" notice of the records in other proceedings held before them as substantive evidence or as part of the background for the decision the agency is asked to make.

## AGENCY/NOTICE

## CASE LAW

Arizona Supreme Court takes judicial notice of ACC files, applications, corporate restructuring of APS by Pinnacle West Capital, and news articles on these matters and a separate utility, Tucson Electric Power Co., financial constraints and bankruptcy risks

Arizona Corp. Comm'n. v. State ex rel., Woods, 171 Ariz. 286, 289, n. 4, 830 P.2d 807, 810 (1992)

Supreme Court takes notice of records of State Retirement Board for information pertinent to charge of public official's conflict of interest State ex re. Smith v. Bohannan, 101 Ariz. 520, 522-23, 412 P.2d 877, 879-880 (1966)

"It is well established that, as long as a party has an opportunity to respond, an administrative agency may take official notice of such 'legislative facts' within its special knowledge, and is not confined to the evidence in the record in reaching its expert judgment." City of Erie v. Pap's A.M., 529 U.S. 277, 298, 120 S.Ct. 1382, 1395, 146 L.Ed.2d 265 (2000) (O'Conner, J., Part IV opinion of the Court)

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909, 911 (1964) (emphasis in original),

"misconceives the fundamental nature of the Certificate of *Public* Convenience and Necessity and the implications of the theory of the *regulated* monopoly which has been adopted in Arizona. The monopoly is tolerated only because it is to be subject to vigilant and continuous regulation by the Corporation Commission." (Emphasis in original.)

CC&Ns can only be acquired from the Corporation Commission by showing that the monopoly service it authorizes "would best serve the public interest." *Id.* The measure, therefore, that APS' Application must meet is whether it serves not merely the financial interests of the utility, but whether it best serves the utility customers.

In the 26 filings made in the Generic Docket in 2014, 17 (65.4%) of them mentioned APS' proposed "opt-out" terms and charges to at least some degree, while about half as many filings (34.6%) made comments that did not address opt-out issues or concerns. Thus, as many as 2/3 of those people filing comments in the Generic Docket address opt-out concerns and issues, which goes to whether granting APS' Application best serves the public interest.

Members of the public filing comments bearing on that issue would need to (A) make duplicate filings in this APS Application Docket as well; or (B) address the Commission in public comments during the hearing on the Application, to ensure that their concerns were of record on the Application, if the Commission declines to take official notice of the comments. Some members of the public may choose to file additional comments in the APS Docket or to speak at the hearing. However, taking official notice of filings on opt-out issues in the Generic Docket will measurably streamline the Commission's hearing and consideration of APS' Application.

Granting Sedona's motion will foster the efficient use of time and resources of the Commission, its staff, and the parties and will not prejudice the Applicant. For all of these reasons, Intervenor Sedona requests the Commission take official notice of all

1	filings in the Generic Docket that have been filed or will be filed addressing the terms
2	and conditions for "opt-out" from APS' forced meter conversion scheme.
3	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 16th day of April, 2014.
4	GUST ROSENFELD P.L.C.
5	By: Jone M. Jovela
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7	Attorneys for Intervenor Town of Sedona
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9	of the foregoing filed this 16th day of April, 2014 with:
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